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REMARKS

Claim Objections:

The Office Action objected to claim 15 as being in improper dependent form. In response, Applicants have hereby amended claim 15. Originally, claim 15 mistakenly indicated that it depended from claim 2. Applicants, however, intended for claim 15 to depend from claim 14, and have amended claim 15 to reflect this proper dependency.

Claim Rejections:

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,249,515 (Kim et al.). In response, Applicants have canceled claims 1-4.

The Office Action rejects claims 14-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,249,515 (Kim et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,674,730 (Moerder). In response, Applicants have canceled claim 14. Further, Applicants submit that claim 15 now includes all the limitations of claim 14 and includes two additional method steps not disclosed in Kim et al. or Moerder.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

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If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Craig Plastrik, at 301-601-7252, so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,



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